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REMARKS

Claims 1-18, 21-24, 26, 28-35, and 37-41, 43-48 remain in the subject application with claims 1, 44, 45, 47, and 48 in independent form. Claims 4-8, 24, 26, and 43 have been amended and claims 19, 20, 25, 27, 36, and 42 have been cancelled. Claims 47 and 48 have been newly added. There is full support in the specification as originally filed for these amendments and new claims and no new matter is believed to be introduced.

In response to the telephonic interview with Examiner Snyder, Applicant submits the subject amendment placing the application in a condition for allowance. Applicant appreciates the opportunity extended by Examiner Snyder to submit this Supplemental Amendment.

Applicant has added new claims 47 and 48 which incorporate previous dependent claims 25 and 26, respectively. Referring to claim 47, none of the cited references appear disclose a waste container including an upper end having an opening and a lower end having a bottom and *including slots*, wherein the waste container is separate from the debris collection device of the vacuum unit for collecting waste and a transport mechanism integrally formed with the vacuum unit *having projections* such that the *projections are received by the slots to support and to lock the waste container thereto* for moving the waste container across the area while applying the vacuum to collect the debris and while allowing independent filling of the waste container with waste.

Referring to claim 48, none of the cited references appear to disclose *a transport mechanism* supporting one of the vacuum unit and the waste container thereof for moving across the area while applying the vacuum to collect the debris and while allowing independent filling of the waste container with waste and *a sub-transport mechanism* supporting the other one of the vacuum unit and the waste container for

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Serial No.: 10/605,343  
Group Art Unit: 1744

moving in *tandem* with the transport mechanism. Accordingly, claims 47 and 48 are believed to be allowable.

As a result of this amendment, the subject application has 43 total claims and 5 independent. As originally filed, the subject application had 46 claims and the fee was paid for 26 extra claims. Accordingly, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$200 to Deposit Account 08-2789 for the two extra independent claims. Applicant believes that no additional fees are due; however, if any become required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to the same Deposit Account.

It is respectfully submitted that the Application, as amended, is now presented in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted  
**HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.**

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Date



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